

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2540 – SB 2519

January 26, 2010

SUMMARY OF BILL: Removes from the hunting and fishing licensure exemption the restriction that land may only qualify as farmland if it is owned by no more than one individual or family. Requires ownership of land to be evidenced by a property deed filed in the county where the property is located. Requires any person claiming a hunting and fishing license exemption to provide a copy of the property deed to a TWRA officer upon the officer's request.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Revenue – \$518,100/Wildlife Resources Fund

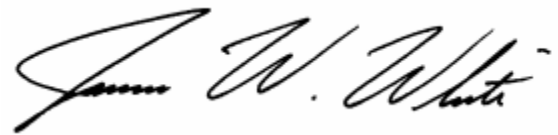
Decrease Federal Revenue - \$146,700/Wildlife Resources Fund

Assumptions:

- Current law creates a hunting and fishing license exemption for owners, their spouses, children, and grand-children or great-grandchildren under the age of 16 and to tenants, their spouses and children.
- According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, there are 713,000 resident sportsmen over 16 years of age who are residents of Tennessee.
- The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) estimates that 6.5 percent of all total hunters and anglers, or 46,345 of the total 713,000, hunt or fish in Tennessee under the landowner license exemption.
- There are an estimated 666,655 (713,000 – 46,345) hunters and anglers holding a paid license in Tennessee each year.
- Two percent of current paying license holders, or 13,333 (666,665 x .02) hunters and anglers, will benefit from this new exemption.
- The average cost of a license is \$38.86 resulting in a decrease in state revenue of \$518,120 (13,333 x \$38.86) to the Wildlife Resources Fund.
- Additionally, TWRA receives \$11 in federal funding for each person holding a paid license resulting in a decrease in federal revenue of \$146,663 (13,333 x \$11) to the Wildlife Resources Fund.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/agl